

Supply of LNG through pipeline in Visakhapatnam

2409. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gas Authority of India Limited proposed to supply liquid natural gas through pipeline in Visakhapatnam;

(b) if so, the details of the pipeline projects; and

(c) the target for completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) has planned to lay a 600 km (approx.) long pipeline for transportation of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in bulk from Visakhapatnam to Secunderabad at an estimated cost of Rs. 502 crore with tap off points at Vijaywada and Secunderabad. The project is estimated to be completed within 36 months from the date of its approval.

Proposal to export LDO

2410. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to export light diesel oil (LDO);

(b) if so, which oil company has been entrusted the work to export LDO;

(c) the countries to which LDO is being exported; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The export of Light Diesel Oil (LDO) has since been decanalised. The export of petroleum products depend upon the overall demand and supply position in the country and the

prevailing market condition. Government have initiated steps to take care of the surplus products, if any, in view of increase in domestic refining capacity.

(c) and (d) LDO is a freely traded commodity in the international market and its export destination is decided by market consideration.

Indigenous oil production

2411. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that indigenous oil production has been more or less static at 33 mmt per annum;

(b) whether the efforts to step up production from the existing wells have not been successful;

(c) whether no more major discoveries have been made in spite of heavy expenses on exploration; and

(d) the prospects of a substantial growth in domestic production in view of the soaring demand in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) During the three years of the IXth Plan period, the crude oil production from National Oil Companies (NOCs) and private/joint venture fields are as under:—

(In MMT)

| Year | Production |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 1997-98 | 33.858 |
| 1998-99 | 32.723 |
| 1999-2000 | 31.95 |
| | (MMT: Million Metric Tonne) |

(c) Several small/medium sized discoveries have been made during the last 3 years by ONGC and OIL and Private/JV sector